

July 2nd, 1941

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
FORTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE:

I am returning House Bill No. 942 without my approval because the Bill in principle is undemocratic and monopolistic, and undertakes to give to an administrative body legislative and judicial powers. The Bill is undemocratic in that it gives to the Railroad Commission almost complete dictatorial powers over the oil industries and does not preserve to the individual producer or landowner the right to have the orders of the Railroad Commission supervised by the courts as to whether the order so made by the Railroad Commission is proper, equitable or for the best interest of the producer, or for the best interest of the State as a whole.

Texas already has a proration law which has worked successfully for some time. It appears to me that to make such a radical departure from the present mode of proration would result in great confusion and create many new and complicated legal questions; throw the industry into long court battles over the constitutionality of questions involved and be generally injurious to the State as a whole and to its citizens. In addition thereto, in my judgment, it would cut down the total amount of allowable oil which could be produced in Texas as compared with other oil-producing States and thereby be injurious to the welfare of this State.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Lee Daniel
Governor of Texas.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

THIS 23 DAY OF July 1941

AT 3 O'CLOCK 30 MINUTES

Wm J. Lawson
Secretary of State

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